

B-19 Cleaning Portawalls and Whitewalls

Gert Gehlhaar posted an article on restoring the brightness of portawalls on our KMW chapter website. Below is an excerpt. Read the whole article with photos showing details and the process on www.kingmidgetswest.club

I HAVE FOUND that after several months of normal cleaning, the white portawalls on my King Midget get tarnished and the normal white-wall cleaner will not clean them to show condition. So here is a little article on what I have found that works well in getting the white portawalls perfectly clean:

These are the materials needed to perform the super cleaning that returns white portawalls to show condition. One spray bottle of Awesome cleaner, one spray bottle of water, a fiber cloth, green scrub cloth, a role of blue painters tape and a spray can of Dupli-Color Vinyl and Fabric Coating, HVP105 Gloss White. It is very important that you only use the Vinyl & Fabric Gloss White Coating because it dries pliable and will conform to the rubber and not crack.



Lee Seats has had good luck using Westleys Bleche White. Be advised it's very caustic and can be especially damaging to mag wheels, even though they show one right on their label!

Following is a suggestion for using Bleche White and avoiding damage to the rims and paint, quoted from the internet:

1. Do one tire at a time.
2. Spray Bleche White onto the brush; not the tire.
3. Work the Bleche White onto the tire, whitewall and blackwall, minimizing the amount that is allowed to sit on the wheels.
4. Rinse tire and rim thoroughly.
5. Wash rim as normal with sponge or Clear-Coat Safe All-Wheel Cleaner, and rinse thoroughly again.



This method minimizes the amount of the stuff that gets onto the rim (and elsewhere) to cause damage. Although some does get onto the rim during rinsing, as long as you rinse thoroughly, the chemical is not there long enough to do harm. When used properly, this to the best whitewall cleaner that I've found, and I've seen no ill results on my wheels."

So, there are two ways to keep your tighty whities sparkling. □